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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/995,665	11/29/2001	Su-Woong Lee	8733.538.00	2645
30827	7590	04/03/2007		
MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP			EXAMINER	
1900 K STREET, NW			NGUYEN, JOSEPH H	
WASHINGTON, DC 20006				
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2815	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/03/2007	PAPER

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/995,665

Applicant(s)

LEE, SU-WOONG

Examiner

Joseph Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 September 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 17-22 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 8-12, 15 and 16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6, 7, 13 and 14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 November 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/28/05.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-5, 8-12 and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over figures 1-2 of acknowledged prior art (APA) in view of Ando (JP-09-138417).

Regarding claims 1 and 8, applicant discloses in figures 1-3 of (APA) a seal pattern of a liquid crystal display device (a method of forming a seal pattern of a liquid crystal display) comprising a substrate 10 having a plurality of unit cell regions A, B, C, D, E, F; a plurality of main seal patterns 21 on the substrate, each main seal pattern being formed at a boundary of a corresponding unit cell region; and a first sub-seal pattern 31 surrounding all of the main seal patterns (See pages 6-7 of the instant application). Figures 1-2 of (APA) do not show each main seal pattern is not formed at a boundary of a corresponding unit cell region for one unit cell region and a first sub-seal pattern having a plurality of open portions. However, Ando discloses in figure 1 each main seal pattern 33 is not formed at a boundary of a corresponding unit cell region for one unit cell region and a first sub-seal pattern 31 having a plurality of open portions such that the infiltration of moisture and foreign matter into the cells at the time of

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cutting substrates is prevented (See English Abstract). In view of such teaching, it would have been obvious at the time of the present invention to modify figures 1-3 of (APA) by including each main seal pattern not being formed at a boundary of a corresponding unit cell region for one unit cell region and a first sub-seal pattern having a plurality of open portions such that the infiltration of moisture and foreign matter into the cells at the time of cutting substrates is prevented.

Regarding claims 2 and 9, figure 3 of (APA) shows the unit cell regions A, B, C, D, E, F are arranged in one of a plurality of columns and a plurality of rows.

Regarding claims 3 and 10, figure 3 of (APA) shows the main seal pattern 21 is formed at a boundary of the one of a plurality of columns and a plurality of rows.

Regarding claims 4 and 11, figure 3 of (APA) shows a second sub-seal pattern 32 between the unit cell regions.

Regarding claims 5 and 12, Ando shows in figure 1 the open portions in the unit cell region having no main seal pattern.

Regarding claims 15-16, applicant discloses in paragraph [0016] of the instant application etching the substrate using an etchant, which is hydrofluoric acid.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6-7 and 13-14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 17-22 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The reference (s) of record do not teach or suggest, either singularly or in combination at least the limitation of "a plurality of additional seal patterns at the open portion" for claims 6 and 13, "a plurality of additional seal patterns for air ventilation each formed at a corresponding air vent portion;" for claims 17 and 22.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1734. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 am- 5:00 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ken Parker can be reached on (571) 272-2298. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300 for regular communications.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Joseph Nguyen

March 5, 2007.